Volume 14, Edition 9 September 2010

Valley of the Moon Amateur Radio Club WIRELESS

FROM THE TOP OF THE HILL

When I first started out in Ham Radio in the fifties, the only way to talk to someone far away was with long distance telephone or Ham Radio. The telephone was pretty reliable, but, as is today, Ham Radio is subject to the sun spot cycle.

Fast forward to the present and now world wide communications with Ham Radio is just as reliable as the telephone thanks to the Internet.

IRLP and Echolink are two protocols for using VHF /UHF repeaters to connect to other repeaters using minimum equipment such as a handheld radio.

Dave and I will give a demonstration on how to set this up. As we found in preparing this program, its quite easy.

See you there.

73, Jim, K6UUW

Minutes August 18, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 7:37 PM by the Honorable President Jim Hill, K6UUW.

There were no minutes from the previous meeting, but it was a good party and everyone ate well.

Announcements:

Vice President, KD6FIL: The N6P event at Point Reyes Lighthouse went well with a total of 97 contacts and one slightly damaged antenna.

Treasurer, KI6RTP: We have $2689.75 in the bank and a couple of outstanding bills. One from the July BBQ and one for the antenna part damaged during the N6P operation.

ACS: The Vintage Festival is coming up at the end of September. They are looking for someone to lead this event. This is a much lower key event then the 4th of July Parade.

Website: Take a look at the website at VOMARC.ORG and let someone know if you see a problem or error.

Radio Officer, WB6TMH: has got the TS520 that was donated to the club operating again.

Old Business:

Antenna Projects coming up. We would like to convert the 2-G5RV antennas belonging to the club into 40 meter Windoms, The Windom seems to perform better than the G5RV. The club will purchase an 80 meter Windom.

There is a 160 meter vertical designed by K6MM that a couple of club members would like to build

New Business:

Hamfest is coming up and we need to request a free day from the City for the Vets building.

The Christmas party is scheduled for December 8 at Mary's Pizza in Boyes Hot Springs.

Pacificon is coming on October 15 – 17 in San Ramon. Tickets are $15 pre purchase and $20 at the door.

Simon, KB6CLV has donated some more 7.2 AH batteries if anyone would like a battery.

Alan, K6KLL, announced that there was a trip planned to HRO on August 20 if anyone needed something picked up.

It was announced that Whit Gilman's tower was sold to K6EME.

The meeting adjourned at 7:58 PM

The program this evening was a DVD of the VOMARC club and the emergency communications program sponsored by the City of Sonoma and Chief Bill Riddel.

Submitted by your humble servant:
David Dammuller, KD6FIL, Vice President

Technical Web Site of the Week - The world's first communications satellite, Echo 1, (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Project_Echo) idn't contain one bit of electronics. A giant, metallic balloon 30 meters across, Echo 1 relayed signals by reflecting them from its 1,048-mile high orbit. Echo 1 was launched forty years ago on Aug 12, 1960. Easily visible to the naked eye, Echo 1 circled the Earth until May 1968. You can see many satellites in the night sky today - check out the Heavens-Above Web site (http://heavens-above.com/) to find visible passes of the ISS and other satellites, including amateur birds.
—(From ARRL contest newsletter)

In a *Report and Order* (*R&O*)

released Wednesday, July 14, the FCC amended Part 97.113 to allow amateurs to participate without an FCC waiver in government-sponsored disaster preparedness drills on behalf of their employers participating in the exercise. The FCC also has amended the rules to allow employees to participate in non-government drills and exercises up to one hour per week and up to two 72-hour periods during the year.

In order to allow participation in non-governmental disaster drills -- such as those sponsored by ARES® or private hospitals -- the FCC will now allow amateurs employed by an agency participating in such a drill to participate up to one hour per week. In addition, they may also participate in up to two exercises in any calendar year, each for a time period not to exceed 72 hours. "This time limitation, which is consistent with the timeframes contained in the waiver requests filed with the Commission, should serve to further ensure the use of Amateur Radio for bona fide emergency testing," the *R&O* stated. "We emphasize that the purpose for any drills we authorize herein must be related to emergency and disaster preparedness. By limiting the purpose in this manner, we further ensure that such drills will be appropriately limited."

In amending the Amateur Radio rules, the FCC reiterated that it does not intend to disturb the core principle of the Amateur Radio Service "as a voluntary, non-commercial communication service carried out by duly authorized persons interested in radio technique with a personal aim and without pecuniary interest. Rather, we believe that the public interest will be served by establishing a narrow exception to the prohibition on transmitting amateur communications in which the station control operator has a pecuniary interest or employment relationship, and that such an exception is consistent with the intent of the Amateur Radio Service rules."

The effective date of the *R&O* is to be determined and will be at some time after its publication in the *Federal Register*. A more detailed story will be forthcoming from the ARRL. (From ARRL Newsletter)

Emergency Management

Thought this might be of interest: **California to Deploy Nation's First Mass Mobile Alert System** -- from *Government Technology*

Thanks, Les Rayburn, N1LF, Alabama (From ARRL Newsletter)

—Submitted by Jim K6UUW

2010 ACS
Net Control Assignments

	Name	Call
SEPTEMBER	SAM	W5LTP
OCTOBER	DICK	KF6FZM
NOVEMBER	MIKE	WB6TMH
DECEMBER	DARREL	WD6BOR

2010 VOMARC
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SEPTEMBER	SAM	W5LTP
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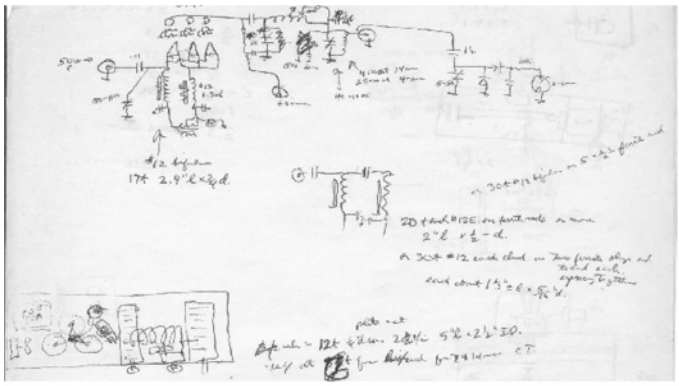
The Creative Genius of Frank Jones, W6AJF



I found this in the items recovered from Frank Jones' library.

Frank spent his days designing and building amateur equipment and then publishing his work.

How about a free 807 to anyone who can figure out what this is.

Jim, K6UUW

THE VOMARC WIRELESS
VOLUME 14 EDITION 9

A publication of VOMARC, the Valley of the Moon Amateur Radio Club – W6AJF

Frank C. Jones – W6AJF
Honorary President in Perpetuity

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Jim Hill, K6UUW – President, Training Officer

Dave Dammuller KD6FIL — Vice-President,

Joan Brady, W6WXU – Secretary

Marty Nemiroff, KI6RTP – Treasurer

Mike Miller, WB6TMH – Radio Officer

Ken McTaggart, N6KM – ACS Unit Leader

Joel Nadler, NN6J – VE Liaison

Jim Hill, K6UUW – Elmer Coordinator

Ken McTaggart, N6KM – Station Trustee for W6AJF

Eileen Adams, KG6QNT – Webmeistress, Editor

Receipt of the Wireless is one of the most sought after benefits of membership in VOMARC—S. Marler.

CLUB MEETINGS are held on the third Wednesday of each month at McDougal Hall at the Sonoma Developmental Center, Eldridge or the Sonoma Fire Station on 2nd St West. Meetings start at 19:30 local (7:30 P.M.).

WEB PAGE: http://www.vomarc.org/

Nets are held every Wednesday night at 19:30 (7:30 P.M.) local, except meeting nights on the 145.350 repeater, -600 kHz, PL 88.5 Hz.

ACS holds a net each Monday evening at 19:30 local on the 146.205, +600, PL 88.5 Hz repeater.

PACKET STATION INFO: The VOMARC packet station is off the air until further notice.

CLUB BREAKFASTS are held on the first Saturday of each month at Palms Grill (formerly Issa's) Restaurant, 18999 Sonoma Highway, Sonoma. The fun starts at 09:30 local.

Comments and submissions of material may be sent to:

Eileen@vom.com

Valley of the Moon ARC, Inc.

C/O Sonoma Police Department
175 First Street West
Sonoma, CA 95476

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THE NEXT VOMARC MEETING IS SEPTEMBER 15, 2010 AT 7:30PM AT THE CITY OF SONOMA EOC, SONOMA POLICE DEPARTMENT, 175 1ST ST W IN SONOMA.
SEE YOU THERE.

VOMARC MEMBERSHIP

VOMARC 2010 Membership Dues: $15/year individual; $5/year family member.

VOMARC encourages its members to join the ARRL. More information is available at www.arrl.org.
QST is available to blind and physically handicapped individuals on audio cassette from the Library of Congress, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Call 1-800-424-8567.

Name:_____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

Address: _____ APT: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP:_____

Name:_____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

Name:_____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

VOMARC: $ _____ Complimentary with Class--Date:_____

Membership Moment, From the Database Queen

Please check the mailing label on this newsletter. It tells you when your VOMARC dues are due. Dues may be mailed to Marty KI6RTP, 20829 Via Colombard, Sonoma, CA 95476, or brought to the next meeting. If there is any mistake, please do not shoot the messenger; email Eileen KG6QNT at Eileen@vom.com. Your check should be made payable to: **VOMARC.**